

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

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R 061155Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9842

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC, EFTA, NO

SUBJECT: STATUS OF PROPOALS FOR CHANGES IN EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN
(R/O)

REF: STATE 120525

1. NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT THE EFTA PROPOSALS ON THE SIMPLICATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF R/O IN TRADE WITH THE E/C COUNTRIES. KJELL FREDERIKSEN OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SIGURD SIGURDSON OF THE COMMERCE DIRECTORATE DISCUSSED THE STATUS OF THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS WITH ECONOFF.

2. THE EFTA NATIONS SUBMITTED COMMON PROPOSALS AT MAY 23RD
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MEETING IN BRUSSELS. THE E/C COUNTRIES TOOK A POSITIVE

VIEW TOWARDS THE PROPOSED FULL CUMMULATIVE PRINCIPLE WITH-
IN EFTA. HOWEVER, THE COMMUNITY WAS MORE RESERVED
CONCERNING THE ALTERNATE 50 PERCENT PERCENTILE RULE. ACCORDING
TO SIGURDSON EFTA ALSO PUT FORWARD A SIMPLICATION OF
THE DECLARATION OF ORIGIN RULE WHICH WOULD MAKE IT
EASIER FOR EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS TO USE THEIR OWN
STAMPS. FRANCE AND ITALY WERE SEEN TO BE THE MAJOR STUMBLING
BLOCKS TO THE EFTA PROPOSED CHANGES, ESPECIALLY THE
50 PERCENT RULE. IN ANY CASE THE E/C COUNTRIES HAVE TAKEN THE
EFTA PROPOSALS "UNDER CONSIDERATION".

3. ALTHOUGH THE NEXT CUSTOMS COMMITTEE MEETING WAS NOT
UNTIL NOVEMBER, NORWAY WILL TRY TO CALL AN AD HOC MEETING
TO DISCUSS R/O QUESTIONS BEFORE THEM, SIGURDSON
EXPECTED THE EC TO PUT FORWARD SOME OF THEIR OWN PROPOSALS
BY NOVEMBER. NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS DID NOT SEE ANY FIRM
CONCLUSION BEFORE NEXT YEAR.
BYRNE

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